

REMARKS

Applicants have amended claims 25, 39, 40, 41, 48 and 49 such that the composition enclosed by the foam coating is a cleaning composition, a fabric care composition, or a fabric conditioning composition. Applicants have also amended claim 25 to clearly define the foam coating of the present invention. Support for these amendments are found in the Specification and previously presented claims 25, 34 and 44. Applicants have also amended claims 26, 28, 33, 37, 48 and 49 by replacing the term "said" with the term "the" for consistency, and claims 33, 35 and 36 to provide proper dependency and/or antecedent basis.

No new matter has been added by the amendments. Entry is believed to be proper and respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 25-28, 32-33, 35-43, 45 and 48-49 are pending. No additional claim fee is due.

REJECTIONS & OBJECTIONS

Objection

Claim 46 is objected to under 37 CFR 1.75 (c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim may depend from other claims in the alternative only.

Applicants submit that Claim 46 has been canceled, thus, the objection is moot.

Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph

Claims 25-28, 30 and 32-38 are rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Particularly, "coating" as claimed is indefinite and misdescriptive.

Applicants point out that by the present amendment, the term "coating" is directed to a foam coating for enclosing a composition and the foam coating has a foam matrix comprising a polymeric material.

As such, Applicants submit that the rejection is overcome. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection under 35 USC §102

Claims 25-35, 38-45 and 47-49 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by US 5,958,589 to Glenn et al. (hereinafter "Glenn"). The Examiner states that the reference teaches a process for encapsulating substances, such as pharmaceuticals and fragrances, using a foamed starch product, which is formed by increasing the pressure and temperature of a starch dispersion, followed

by release of the pressure evaporating the liquid to form a cellular structure. The product may be in the form of spheres.

Applicants submit that Glenn does not disclose a foam coating for enclosing compositions such as cleaning compositions, fabric care compositions and fabric conditioning compositions. Therefore, Glenn does not anticipate the presently claimed invention.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection under 35 USC §103

Claims 36 and 37 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 5,958,589 to Glenn et al, in view of GB 1084301. The Examiner states that Glenn applies as above and GB reference teaches the addition of glycerol to formed starch coating to plasticize the product. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to add a plasticizer such as glycerol to the composition of Glenn because GB '301 teaches plasticizing starch foams.

Applicants submit that Glenn and GB '301 do not teach or suggest a foam coating for enclosing compositions such as cleaning compositions, fabric care compositions and fabric conditioning compositions. Therefore, Glenn/GB '301 do not render the presently claimed invention obvious.

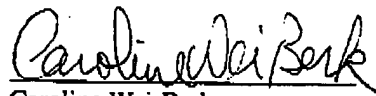
Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes the present amendment is fully responsive and places Claims 25-28, 32-33, 35-43, 45 and 48-49 in condition for allowance.

In the event that issues remain prior to allowance of the noted claims, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's undersigned attorney to discuss any remaining issues.

Respectfully Submitted,
FOR: Corrand et al.



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